

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 JIDDA 00494 221112Z

53

ACTION NEA-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 PM-03 SP-02 L-01

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R 221050Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9925

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

S E C R E T JIDDA 0494

LIMDIS

BEIRUT PASS BAGHDAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MASS, SA, IZ

SUBJECT: SAUDI INQUIRY ABOUT HELICOPTER SALE TO IRAQ

1. MOHAMMAD MAS'UD, SAUDI ACTING MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS, ASKED THE AMBASSADOR JAN 21 IF THE UNITED STATES WERE RESUMING MILITARY SUPPLIES TO IRAQ. HE SAID THEY HAD JUST RECEIVED A REPORT FROM THE SAUDI EMBASSY IN BAGHDAD THAT THE UNITED STATES HAD AGREED TO SELL IRAQ 34 LARGE SIKORSKY TROOP TRANSPORT HELICOPTERS. HE SAID THIS WAS A MATTER OF CONSIDERABLE CONCERN TO SAUDI ARABIA, AND WONDERED IF IT WERE TRUE.

2. I TOLD HIM THE STORY SEEMED UNUSUAL BUT I WOULD CHECK AND INFORM HIM IMMEDIATELY.

3. ACTION REQUESTED: IS THERE ANY BASIS TO THE REPORT? IF SO, WHAT EXPLANATION CAN BE GIVEN THE SAUDIS WHO WOULD BE DISTURBED AT THE IMPLICATIONS OF INCREASING IRAQI TROOP MOBILITY?

AKINS

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
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Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Disposition Authority: greeneet
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Event:
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Disposition Reason:
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